NEW YORK HERALD, SATURDAY, MAY IN 1882 THIPLE SHEET

wee fresh from the southward, and it burned up, facily, looking very much like a prairie fire. Sig-s made for boats to tow the raft away from the g, and about forty boats were manned and send each provided with grapuels and fire buckets. the boats Kineo and Kathadin worked around is they put she fire out. They then towed it sahors near where the one that same down in the morning was meered. While this was going on, the rebeis had small sew boats out watching the progress of their skill, and aw probably with regret their inglorious results and our high enjoyment. No ammement they could possibly get up could be more acceptable to our man. The morter fast sailors were in costacies and they extinguished the finmes in about order, and received the bearty cheers of the vessels as they passed along. With their two fire seafas the rebot is lave accomplished nothing, except to bears us how to handle them. At half-past ten P. M. the cheep of-war (sailing) Portsmouth arrived and anchored one as

### THE BOMBARDMENT.

# First Day's Bombardment,

FLACSHIP, FRIDAY, April 18, 1862.

iday. We have rested quietly all night, and
concluded his rafts are of no account; or if he each four versels in tow and proceeded up the to their fighting stations. It was a splendid sight sts and rigging covered with green boughs; the imber were anchored on the right bank of the

sis had taken their position, the rebels opened fire raich was instantly returned by the mortars, and thu ed the bombardment of Fort Jackson. The fire of ebels at first fell short, but after an hour's practice

THE MORTAN BOATS DO EXECUTION irst half hour of mortar practice their shells burst esty near the right range. This having been done the mast few at a fearful rate, and from the mastheads of our vessels we could see that they were doing good ex

The frequeis, Cayuga, Sciota and Wissahicken opened at ten o'clock with eleven-inch shells and fifteen second

At twenty-five minutes past ten o'clock a fire raft was boovered coming down the river. It did not disturb nimity of a single person in our party. After ing out clear of the point it went ashore a few hunfor hours. About this time the heavy explos woods, and they came off in swarms to the vessels. At eleven o'clock another raft was towed down, and the cheamer doing that duty was reminded of the close proximity of our gunboats by having the shells thrown are not a manner I should think might be called appleasant. Notwithstanding her efforts under such a grain the fire raft went ashore. This makes the fourth they have sent down, and they all have met with the tamer fate. In our opinion fire rafts are "played out." THE BALE OF THE CRAIN.

It was currently reported that the remaining four of the original eight schooners supporting the chain are provided with howitzers, and that they exercised themselver in firing at our boats sunt out to take charge of the fire rafts, and also that one of these schooners mounts a eleven-inch mortar. I think the report is true. I think we will stak the schooners to night.

ARRED. ods, and they came off in swarms to the vessels. At

return to the bombardment. At times there were neight to ten shells in the air at one time, and it is so to say that one in ten hit the mark. The rebels to compelled to leave the barbette guns shortly after a more work their casemate guns and the ride guns in water battery flanking the fort. As a shell would the fort a cheer would go up from a ship and be sed along from vessel the rebels, we sed along from vessel the rebels, we set, have a projectile which they throw up at a great ration; it then bursts and projects a shot which falls he tremendous force. With this affair they have made a splendid shots. Several vessels have narrowly essel being his by them—our ship among the number. We seen the squadron moved up close to the scene of on and js to outside the range of the fort.

pour Jackson of Firs.

a long time the bombs flow thick and faster.
O'clock the fort was reported to be on fire, and elicit in the second of t werked on the Fort Jackson side—and they were in the water battery—and two rifled guns in Fort St. Philip, to which we have not yet paid our respects. At larty manutes past six the Harrist Lane signalized the meriar vessels to case firing. I have heard of no socionate to any person. But two of the mortar vessels have the Maria Chen, but here have cally respected. them had her cabin knocked into so one had a shot put through her hauled out of action for about an un have the notes of the day. All and gladly seek their hammocks to so for the morrow.

The night passed away without anything of note oc cherring, and the men had an opportunity of obtaining ould have been kept up during the entire icht, even if we did not throw but one shell in the of ten or fifteen minutes.

light southeast wind, which gradually increased until The sun was very warm and the heat was at times quitesparenive. At half-past six o'clock the mortar vessel spened the second day's bombardment. The fire at first case slow, and the vessels which were on the left bank of the river yesterday have been placed in position on the other bank near our anchorage. At seven o'clock

THE SCHOOLER MARIA J. GARLTON SINE.

At half-past eleven o'clock a rifle shot went through the schooler Maria J. Carlton, and the sunk in about sendy simules. Everything was saved from her except the mortar, and only two or three men were injured that yo spillers. I might as well state here that in my letters I will furnish a correct list of killed and sended, as they come to me through the proper channels, thereby causing no unnecessary anxiety among the best with the sended, as they come to me through the proper channels, thereby causing no unnecessary anxiety among the best with the fact.

Just after the sinking of the M. J. Carlton the gunboats these and Kineo were ordered into close action, the Conneces of the boats must be hit. The Oneida attended much attention by her coolness and her heavy the sended much attention by her coolness and her heavy the sended much attention by her coolness and her heavy the sended much attention by her coolness and her heavy the sended much attention by her coolness and her heavy the sended much attention by her coolness and her heavy the sended much attention by her coolness and her heavy the sended much attention by her coolness and her heavy the sended much attention by her coolness and her heavy the sended much attention by her coolness and her heavy the sended much attention by her coolness and her heavy the sended much attention by her coolness and her heavy the sended much attention to the sended to outsie each close in fighting. The enemy, in attempting to disable the of the gunboats, came near hitting us.

At two o'clock the Oneida was hit twice, one ten-inch colid about fair parts, and knocking off one of the trucks, and passing out of the ship on the port side. Shortly afterwards another shot of the same description hit the forever of the ship on the port side. The right of the same description hit the forever of the same description hit the forever of the same sended to work the same sended to the same sended to the colors. The physical sended to the colors of t

hirteen-lach shells, as they leave the mortar, all shooting stars, but leave no flery tail, as a told they would. It is a beautiful sight, ast. A bright flash, a beavy report, and a

Third Day's Bombardment.
SUNDAY MORNING, April 20, 1862.
THE PIRING KEPT UP ALL MOUT.
The mortars have kept up a fire all night at stated in ervals by divisions. Some of the mortar vessels lay

daring trick.

THE WOUNDED TARKE TO A PLACE OF SAFETY.

The wounded have been all put on board of the Katahdin and sent te the hospital at Pilot Town. The Pinot and Itasca are to have their masts taken out and otherwise fitted for desperate work. The picket boats of yesterday were recalled at nine c'olock this morning, and the Iroquois, Kennebec and Winona sent up to do duty, with orders not to waste a abot. They will do their work, you may rely on it.

A BRIEL DESCRITE.

This morning a descriver from Fort Jackson came down to one of the headmost mortar vessels and halled her. A boat was immediately despatched to him and he was brought on board the Harriet Lane, where he was interrogated by Capt. Forter. Subsequently he came here, The deserter is a fine looking fellow, a citizen of Pennayl-vania, and, as I learn, a member of Dan Bloc's Circus troupe. He was dressed in a seedy pair of black pants, with a red stripe on each leg. He had a red shirt en and a red Zouave cap. He was covered with mud, the result of his tramp through the swamps.

He states that at nine o'clock last evening a shell burst' near one of the magazine doors, creating the wildest constenation, and in the midst of this tumult he passed the sentries, jumped into a skiff and crossed the water ditch, and from thence he struck out for the swamp which lies between the fort and our vessels, his only guide being the burning fuses of the shells we were throwing over his head. He states that when an interval would elapse between the shells his heart would nearly fail him lest they should cease fring. Thus boping, thus fearing, he wended his way through the dismal and dreary awamp and morass, sometimes wast deep in the mud. His trials lasted until five o'clock this morning, when he come up with the bombarders.

OUR SIBLES WORNING FIRETY.

He reports that our shells are working finely and that

OUR SHELLS WORKING FINELY.

He reports that our shells are working finely and that us ret the cirade on fire the first night, and thinks that if we had kept up the fire of shells we would have driven them out of Fort Jacks in. It appears from his statement that the magazine and other po tions of the fort are pre-tret d by a large quantity of outen bales, and that these have been set on fire a great mapy times.

these have been set on fire a great many times.

THE CASEMATIS O' THE FORT SHATHERED.

The work is terribly shattered, and the casemates are nearly broken in many places. The gusboats yesterday entirely destroyed one. Only a few men have been killed as yet. We have nearly silenced the water battery, disable a ten-inch columbiad and knocked the carriage of another to pinces. Our fire is represented as being terrific, and the least damage causes so much consternation that it requires the utmost efforts on the part of the officers to quiet the men. Our shells, when they fall, bury themselves from twelve to fourteen feet in the earth close to the fort, then explode, and make the whole fort fairly tremble with the shock. Occasionally one bursts in the fort; but those which burst outside do the most execution. There are about 1,500 men in both forts, mistly foreigners, but commanded by "gentle Southern bloods."

day:

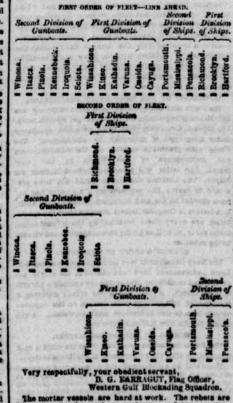
Unitan Status Flagship Hartrond, Musus: Pirit Riven, April 20, 1862.

Internation of the opinion expressed by the different commanders, is of the opinion expressed by the different commanders, is of the opinion that whatever is to be done will have to be done quickly, or we will be again reduced to a blockading squadron, without the means of carrying on the bombardment, as we have nearly expended all the shells and fuses and material for making carridges. He has always entertained the same opinions which are expre-sed by Commander Porter—that is, that there are three modes of attack, and the question is, which is the one to be adopted? His own opinion is that a combination of two should be made, viz. The forts should be run, and when a force is once above the forts to protect the troops, they should be indeed at Quarantine from the Gulf side, by bringing them through the bayou; and then our forces should move up to the comments.

landed at Quarantine from the Gulf side, by bringing them through the bayou; and then our forces should move up the river, mutually alding each other, as it can be done to advantage.

When, in the opinion of the Fiag Officer, the propitious time has arrived, the signal will be made to weigh and advance to the conflict. If, in his opinion, at the time of arriving at the respective positions of the different divisions of the feet, we have the advantage, he will make the signal for close action," and abide the result, conquer or to be conquered, drop anchor or keep under weigh, as, in his opinion, is best. Unless the signal above mentioned is made, it will be understood that the first order of saiting will be formed after leaving Fort St. Philip, and we will proceed up the river in accordance with the original opinion expressed.

The programme of the orders of saiting accompanies this general order, and the commanders will hold themselves in readiness for the service as indicated.



Western Gulf Blockading Squadron.

The mortar vessels are hard are week. The rebets are firing slow, but far, and our gunboats are firing eccasionally and as circumstances dictate.

firing slow, but far, and our gunboats are firing eccasionally and as circumstances dictate.

Noon.

Noon.

Noon.

As I and expected Fort St. Philip saw our mastheads and blazed away at us with rilled guns, and for twenty minutes they dropped the shot around us like hail. It is a wonder they did not hit us. We are now lying near our old berth with eventher is very cold, the wind blowing a strong gale. A norther has set in, but I trust it will not last long. We took the masts out of the Pinola this afternoon. At four o'clock most of the mortar vessels were engaged in roplenishing their magazines, but the fire was kept up steadily from some of them. A little robel steamer came down to do something to the chain, but she was quickly driven from her work.

Fort Jackson has not fired a gun this afternoon, and three or four steamers dodging about in the vicinity of the fort leads many to believe that it is evacuated. Fort St. Philip occasionally fires, but they both soem to act cautiously, and as if they were short of ammantion.

They cannot keep much in Jackson at any time, but we learn that now they are obliged to pump the occasion of it to keep their powder dry. I have heard of no casuation to day, either to men or vessels.

The EURISTION TO DERINGY RIS CHAIN.

An expedition is being fitted out now to blow up all the chain vessels. It have seen four barrels of powder prepared on beard of this ship, which are to be used on the occasion, and I know that the Pinola is to board one of the vessels. It will be a depretacy of. A gentleman who came out here for the purpose is now on board of the Harriet Lane, and will use some submarine apparatus on one of the vessels. Captain Bell is to take charge of the affair. Every one is on the get pipe for the explaining

shot, but the rebels blazed away at a fearful rate. Hundreds of anxious hearts were bearing fast, and perfect quiet prevailed on deck and slot.

THE CHAIN ACROSS THE MISSISSIPPI BROKEN.
Over an hour's suspense and a boat came down the river. It proved to be a boat from the Pinola to report the chain broken, and that the itasks was hard and fast ashore. The tiring at the forts had now sinckessed, and we were afraid that if she did not get off before the moon rose they would capture her, so we sens orders to the picket boats to tow her off immediately, and, if necessary, to throw overboard her guns, as we could supply a deliciency in that line of ordnance stores.

THE OPERATION OF BREAKING THE CLAIN.

R appears that each of our wessels had selected a particular vessel to operate upon, and in the darkness and owing to the strength of the current, it was found impossible to get into the position desired. Two vessels were boarded and out adrift, but none was blown up, as was intended.

The submarine gentleman located his torpedo, but the wire breaking of course his affair failed. The work accomplished, although not so great as could be desired, is of vast importance, and will enable us to pass this much dreaded barrier. At midnight all the vessels returned, and the mortar fire was slackened down to its regular

### Fourth Day's Bombardment MONDAY, April 21, 1862.

At two o'clock this morning, and just after the moon began to light up everything beautifully, the enemy set fire to a raft, near Fort Jackson which was much larger than any one they had sent down. Owing to a fair wind and a very swift current, it came down with terrific fury and speed. The fleet prepared for it, and it drifted by us, crackling and emitting dense volumes of black smoke. It passes within fity feel of us. The Stota was slightly injured by coming in contact with it. Porter's vessels and our picket boats took it in charge, and put the fire out and drove it ashore

running very swiftly. At twenty minutes past eigh o'clock this m wning a rebel steamer came down, we sup pose, to get hold of one of the chain schooners; but one o our gunboats is reported to have hit her. At any rate her stay was very short indeed.

THE FORTS REINPORCED heads it is reported that stemors are just above the forts, and are supplying them with powder and provisions. A ten-inch columbiad and a heavy rifle are at work at our gunboats, but do not hit anything. It is true they throw their shots all around them. At nine o'clock the Varuna, Wissahickon and Cayuga were or dered up to relieve the Iroquois, Winona and Kennebeck.
As soon as the relief was being made the enemy opened
very heavy fire, and threw their shots all around us The Sciota and Kineo are being repaired of the damage done to them by colliding this morning when the raft

tion as could be desired. At four o'clock it was reported a new battery was opening fire and throwing shells over Port Jackson at our mortar vessels.

A mortar vessel is reported to have been sunk this afternoon, but the report as yet lacks confirmation. One thing is very cartain, that one of them has been made a target of by the enemy this afternoon, and in self-defence she snoved off shore a little and opened her mortar on two heavy guns in Fort St. Philip, which were troubling her. A half dozen well directed shells had the desired effect, and the guns were silenced. Reports came in this evening that the Iroquois hit a rebel steamer this morning.

A shout six o'clock a rebel steamer came down to land provisions and powder at Fort Jackson, and before she had finished one of our mortar shells burst either on her or over her, and a tremendous explosion followed. It is supposed that we hit one of their supplies of powder. The explesion was sent from slot and from the deck by scores of our people, and the general impression is as I have stated.

Some if the Harriot Lane's officers, in company with the deserter who came down from the fort, went off this failured to be a bright light up the river in the vicinity of the chain vassets, probably for the "quarters." It turned out to be a bright light up the river in the vicinity of the chain vassets, probably for the double purpose of adding the enemy to repair the chain, and to warn them of approaching danger. Five or six of the enemy is steamers are about three miles above the forts dodging around.

General Butler is very anxious in regard to the arrival

forte dodging around.

THE FLAN TO SHORN THE FORT!.

General Butler is very anxious in regard to the arrive of the steamer Henry Lowis, which broke down on ne way here from Ship Island. She has all the scaling ladders on board, and as soon as she comes we may expect

ders on board, and as soon as an evente in relation to our astormy time.

On the weather now depends much in relation to our movements. We know not now what an hour may brish forth; but I believe we are prepared for most anything The forts are firing at intervals this evening, and the bombwders are throughg their usual quots of sheets, should think they would be heartily tired by tais time Our launches are at work to-day supplying them will powder and shells. I forgot to say that the ferry boa Jackson arrived here last evening, and has already don much valuable service.

much valuable service.

One curious fact i noticed to-day—that the explosio the heavy guns at the forts, two and three fourth mawny from us, jet the ship more heavily than the mor do, which lie within one hundred yards of us, other fact came to my notice also—that when there heavy cannonading going on between our gunboats the forts large quantities of dead fish float past vessels.

### Fifth Day's Bombardment. TURBDAY, April 23.

Nothing of striking importance occurred during the night, the mortar vessels keeping up their usual amount of bombarding. No raits or rains disturbed our slumbers. After sunrise not a cloud was to be seen, and the day promised to be fair and warm. The Ouelda, Kinee and Kutahdin were ordered on guard, and the boats which had been up the past twenty-four hours gladly obeyed the recall signal. The enemy had been busy at the chain all night, but daylight showed that they had accomplished nothing.

THE REIGH HEAVY GENS SHIPTED TO A WATER RATTERY. It appears the enemy have shifted one or more of their heavy gons to a small outwork at Pert St. Philip, and annoyed the mortar vessels so much that two or three of them turned their attention to the said small battery

A SHELL DISHOUNTS A RESEL GUN. In the course of their practice eye-witnesses tell me that one of the thirteen-inch shells hit the breech of a very heavy gun on the battery, capsizing it, and the exploded. The mortar men deserve much praise for their steady and heavy fire. I cannot see how they endure it, but I am told that so many shots have his around them, doing no damage, that they begin to think they have charmed lives and will not be his at all. The story is, we go up past the forts to-night. At any rate

such is the case."

THE Owelda has been made provided "such and such is the case."

The Owelda has been hit again to-day; a nine-inch shell passed through her smike stack and bridge, then airlking the deck, exploded, taking off the left leg and left arm of the Signal Quartermaster. I saw him at eight o'clock P. M., and he was doing well; and he being a latrong, hearty man, it is hoped that his life will be saved. Thirteen men have been wounded in that vessel, and I can assure you is does not create the moss pleasant feeling on board of her.

THE FORTS DIVIDE THEIR FIRE.

The forts have been firing pretty briskly to-day, and, as usual, had their requier amount of practice at the flag-ship. The Kathadin na rowly secaped being hit by a tennich shot while lying abeam of us. Our guuboats have not expended so many shells to-day, as their presence has the effect to draw the fire of the forts at the mortar vesses. The enemy have not send down as many steamers as esual to day.

This afternoon the trunk cabin of a vessel drifted by us, and shortly afterwards a log raft and scow, bottom up, came down. I had the good fortune to get in a boat and get on the raft. If was built of eleven legs, whose diameter varied from four to two feet, each one twenty-five feet long. These were secured together by three-one and one-quarter inch chains, each clogged so as not to slip out. Another heavy chain was fastened to one end of the raft to more it by, and the whole structure was crossed by the chain which was stretched across the river. Marks of recent work upon it were visible. New spikes, just driven in and others not in place, were lying in the crevices of the bark. It was a good idea, save in one particular—a shackle lay on the raft, and had any one attempted to cut it, his trouble would have been lessened by kincking the shackle pin out.

The Kathamy to repart the damages to the chain has had shells thrown around him so fast as to cause him to quit work; and the maintary of the work—the raft—got away before they could secure it.

are anxious as to their fate, and fear ill has befallen them.

RECEL'S SCHWARDE PLAN DOES NOT SUCCESS.

At nine o'clock—the time I write this—there is a widejy circulated rumor that Mr. Khoel, the submarine man, has gene to blow up the remaining vessel, and her explession will be the signal for our advance.

A SURKEN VESSEL FOULS TOR PLACESUP.

I had not finished the above sentence before a heavy crashing noise under our bow startled us, and the ship was lifted and then rolled from side to side at the same time. The chain cable run out at a fearful rate, and before it could be stopped one handred and twenty fathoms had gone through the hawse holes. The capstan bars were shipped, and the rapidity with which the capstan revolved threw them out, seriously wounding several men. One had his arm broken, one was hit in the abdomen, and his life was despaired of for some time, and others were injured more or cises. It is a great wonder that scores were not killed outright. It was midnight before the ship was again at her anchor in safety.

## Sixth Day's Bombardment. WEDNESDAY, April 23, 1862. ANOTHER PIRE RAPT.

down to burn us up, but the ill success of previous one attended it, and no one was disturbed by its presence. did not see it or know of it until I turned out this morning. The wind is favorable, and I have no doubt but we will mave up to-night. The Iroquois, Pinola and Itases were ordered on duty to-day. The Iroquois has obtained desertor has returned with the party of the Harriet Lane's officers. They were unable to accomplish anything. Their return takes a great load off from our minds, as we had feared some ill luck had

befailen them.

Up to eleven o'clock the forts had not fired a gun, but the mortar vossels were keeping up their fire. Reports from the mastheads say that our shells are doing execution in Fort St. Philip. The enemy have twelve steamers in sight from the masthead. I four they are throwing another chain across the river at the Quarantine. The Manni ran into one of our ships this morning and lost one of her masts. Our men are all in good spirits in anticipation of the coming struggle.

Opened the struggle.

At a quarter before six o'clock this evening a smatteamer came down and took a good look at us. As see as she left we began to get into line of battle.

as she left we began to get into line of battle.

THE PROPOSED PLAN OF ADVANCE.

The plan is, that Captain Balley's division engage Port St. Philip, firing only his btarboard guns, and the Flag Officer's division. Fort Jackson, while Commander Bell will endeavor to run by and engage Fort St. Philip in the rear and see if the river is clear and drive off the enemy's gunboats. There is much speculation and enthusiasm in the fleet, but all are confident of success. The Itasca will go ahead and first see if the way is clear at the chain, and at a given signal we will advance.

Our battle flags are beat on, and we will fly an ensign at each musthoad and a larger one at the mizzon peak. As the sun set in the west to night it was watched with interest, and it was remarked that it might possioly be our last sight, of that glerious orb. Determination is stamped in every face, and some hard fighting will be done before the sun will rue on the morrow.

THE CRICCEN MAMIL.

THE CHLUCKY MIAMI.

The Miami ran foul of the Brooklyn to-day and carries away her naturnast, killing four men and seriously wounding several others.

The time for starting has been fixed for one o'clock in the morning, and I trust that to morrow at breakfast time we shall be above the forts, lying quietly at anch r. A few hours more and the great crisis comes—victory, or retreat and again become blockaders, instead of bombarders.

The Glorious Advance of the Fleet.

EREBURY MILES BELOW NEW ORLEANS, April 24, 1862. Engrard Mills Below New Oklash, April 24, 1862.
I closed my letter last evening at seven o'chek, not knowing that I should ever have an opportunity to again put apen to paper. In vain I attempted to obtain some sleep, so as to be physically prepared for the contest which was to come off in the course of a few hours. All hands seemed cheerful, but there was a marked feel ing of awe and resolution manifest in every countenance will not attempt to describe the feelings of any on whose face showed the inward workings of their mind. We all felt that a most terrible battle was before us, and We all left that a most terrible battle was before us, and how we were to escape being terribly cut up was to us a my stery not easily solved. Two heavy works, mounting in the neighborhood of two hundred pieces, a chain cuble, helf a dozen hulks, a dozen or more steamers, well armed, a rum or two, firerifts without number, a noift current, and a desperate foe, were among the number of things against which we knew we were to contend. An accident to engines or a serious collision and we must all be lost. You cannot imagine how formidable each of these things were in themselves, but, combined, the odds against us neemed overwhelming. But trusting in our peaders, and, more than all, in that wise and overruling Providence who favors the cause of right and justice, we

Providence who favors the cause of right and justice, we left aimost sure of winning the contest. felt almost sure of winning the contest.

THE CHAIN CLEAR—THE SIGNAL FOR ADVANCE.

At about eleven o'cloca the Itasca signalized that the chain was clear and that we could go ahead when really. Everything was quiet around the fieet, save the hissing sound of the steam e-caping from the bollers. The night was moderately dark and a gentle southerly wind made the weather rather hazy. The mortar vessels kept up an incessant roar, and bright globes ascended high eloft to again descend in fury at the forts. The second division, under Captain Baily (of the Colorado), formed on the left bank of the river, while the third division was in centre of the lines, the first division lying on the right in centre of the lines, the first division lying on the righ bank of the river.

The fleet were to sail in the following order:-First Dicision—Flag Officer
Farragut commanding.
Hartford,
Brooklyn.
Richmond.

Second Division—Balley comms
Cayuga.
Pensaccia.
Mississhpl.
Oneida.
Varuna.
Katahdin.
Kinco.
Wissahickon.
Divisional

At one o'clock all hands were called, bammocks stowed and everything put in readiness to weigh anchor at two

It was a solemn time, I assure you. The hour seems but a few moments. The memories of a score of years sitted through the mind, and all the courage we possess ed was screwed up for the event.

THE HATTLE SIGNAL.
At two o'clock two red lights at our peak ann the time to get under weigh. I had the honor to hoist the signal with my own hands. Owing to some unfore-need delays the second division did not start at the sig-nal, and as they had the longest road to travel, it was necessary for us to wait until they started. At three o'clock the moon rose, and a silvery path was marked out on the swift waters of the river, so soon to be the stage on which the greatest naval fight has ever trans. pired. The moon had lifted itself above the hori-

the battle ground. In the dim distance could be seen the signal dree of the enemy, built to light up the river and reveal our position to him. On we steamed, with

At precisely twenty minutes of four o'clock the enemy opened are from Fort St. Philip. At that moment I heisted our largest Star Spangled Banner at the peak, and then hastening forward, decked the fore and main can ensigns were floating in a gentle breeze. Full spee out given to the ship, the engineers did their duty noby, and on we send, as it were, into the jace of death. At the time the enemy opened fire the mortar vessels went to work, and the rapidity with which they throw shells at the

THE PLACERIP JOINS IN THE FIGHT. At five minutes of four o'clock our bow gun belched forth fire and smoke, and a messenger, in the shape of a nine inch shell, was sent to Fort Jackson—the works ninutes more the broadside firing was con Foth forts were replying as fast as they could. Broad side after broadside was being delivered to them in rapid succession, while the mortar vessels were adding

Shot, shell, grape and canister filled the air with deadly missiles. It was like the breaking up of a thousand worlds—crash—tear—whiz! Such another seem was never wassesed by morkel man. Stantily we steamed on, giving them shell, the forts firing rifle shot and shell, ten inch columbiads, forty-two, thirty-two and twenty-four pounder balls; and, to add to this state of affairs, thirteen steamers and the floating battery! Louisians, of the snemy, were pouring the floating battery Louisiana, of the enemy, were pouring peribable. Not satisfied with their firing, fre raft after ing. The Ram was busy at work trying to shove them under the bows of our vessel.

THE BARRETTE GUNS SILKNOED As we drew near abeam of the forts we intermingled grape with shell, which had the effect to stlones in a sure the barbette guas. The shot from the en-

NARROW ESCAPE OF THE FLAG OFFICE While in the port mizzen rigging the Flag Offi-cer narrowly escaped being hit with a rifle shell. A shell burst on deck, and the concus-sion stunned Lieutenant George Heisler, of our darine corps, so that for a time his life was despaired of. I started to go forward to see how things were working off my head. It was a time of terror our guns were firing as rapidly as possible, and the howitzers in the

The rebel steamers were crowded with troops, who fired volicys of rifle balls at us, most of which did us no narm. One of them came near us, and I think I am safe in saying she contained two hungred men. Our howitcorps, opened into her with two nine-inch guns. A RESEL VESSEL BLOWN TO PIECES—ALL HANDS LOST

An explosion—terrific yelis—a careen, and that fellow was done for. Their steamers were bold and fearless; but no sooner did they come in sight of our gunners than they were sunk. The Varuna sunk six of tuem one after

In the midst of this awful scene down came a tremen-fous fire raft, and the ram shoved her under our port quarter. The flames caught our rigging and side, and for a moment it seemed we must fall a prey to the ravages of fire. A fire was also burning on the berth deck. The fire bese was on hand, and we soon subdued the fames, and gave the ram a dose of rifle shell. She, however, came up for us again, but some other vessel tackled her and she hauled off. During this stage of affai.s we ground.d, and our fate seemed scaled; but our men worked like beavers, and the engineers soon got the ship astern and affeat. It defies the powers of my brain to describe the scene at this time. brain to describe the sceae at this time. The river and its banks were one abeet of fame, and the messengers of death were moving with lightning swiftness in all directions. Steadily we plied shell and grape, interspersed with shrapnel. Rebeldom began to quake; her boats were fast being riddled by well directed broadsides, and they who were able made for the

shore to run them on, so that they could save their lives. were cheering with a hearty good will, and well they might, for we had almost soon the day, and we were nearly past the forts. Our ship had been on fire three times, and she was riddled from stem to stern. The cabin was completely gutted, the starboard steerage all torn up and the armory all knocked into "pl" My ciothing was atrewn abaft decks, and I was obliged to pick K up piece by piece. The manuscript of the bom-bardment came near to a struction by a rifle shell, which tore

WE ARE PAST THE PORTS.

After being under a territic fire for one hour and twenty through mainmant, two in stern and several through us. I frankly confess I am unable to describe the scene. Words carnot express any adequate idea of the engage meat. Wrapped up in smoke, firing and being fired at, shot and shell whistling like locomotive demons around, above, before and in the rear of you; flames from fire rafts encircling you, splinters flying in all directions and shells bursting overhead! Can you imagine this scene?
If you can, it is more than I can describe as I would

ELEVEN REBEL STEAMERS ON FIRE. At half-past five o'clock no less than eleven rebe steamers were in flames along each side of the river. We steamed up to the Quarantine to anchor, when lot the Ram made his appearance, and saucily fired at the

The Mississippi being near at hand, about ship for the black devil, and at him she went with the idea of running black devil, and at him she went with the idea of ramong him down. The Ram ran, but finding the Mississippi gaining on him, he run his nose into the bank of the river, and immediately about thirty men came up out of the hatch and run on shore. The Mississippi fired two or three broadsides into her and boarded her, but finding she was of ne earthly account again fired into her, and she drifted down the river staking very fast. On reach ing Quarantine we found that the Varuna had been sunk, and that, after her brave exploits, she fell, crippled in a THE VARUNA AND THE REBEL VESSEL.

Captain Beggs of the Varuna, finding that a steamer (name unknown), was about to run into him, put the vessel in such position that in being damaged he could repay it with interest. On came a large steamer all class with iron about the bow, and hit the Varuna in the port waist, cutting and crushing in her side. She dropped alongside and cleared out to butt again. She hit the Varuna a second time, and while in a sinking condition the Varuna poured the eight-inch shells into him so fast that the rebel was set on fire and driven on shore. CAPTURE OF THE REARL VIRGIL GOVERNOR MOORE.

CAPTURE OF THE REME. VIRGE. GOVERNOR MOORE.

No sooner had the Varuna cleared herself of this customer, and while endeavoring to reach the river bank, than the steamer Governor Moore (formerly the Morgan), commanded by Lieutenant Beverly Kennon, came along in a crippled condition, and endeavored to run away up the river. The Oncida gave chase and she surrendered to her. She was then found to be on fire, and, before the flames could be subdued, was burned up.

The Varuna's exploits rank among the brightest of those of the engagement. She fought her guns until a portion of the gun carriages were submerged in the water. Captain Boggs saved all his wounded, but his dead went down with the vessel. The Stars and Stripes were usuing from her mattheads as she suak.

waving from her mastheads as she munk.

CAPTURE OF A MERKL CAMP.

posite the Quarantine we found several companies

opposite tharpshooters, belonging to the Chalmette re, giment, who were vaving white slags while others were leaving as fast as they could. This camp fell a prize to Captain Bailey's flagship, the Cayuga. The cine rs were brought on board here, and put on their parole. Our neet was found to be all present, except the Winona, Itasca and Kennebeck, the Portsmouth not having entered the fight. It is rumored that the Winona sunk during the fight. They all may be safe below the forts. We hope so at least.

As soon as we could bury our dead we prepared to go up to the city of New Orieans. We have lost quite a number of men in the fleet; but, as yet, I am unable to learn the number or names. The following is the list of casualties on board of this ship during the engagement of this morning:-

Joseph Lawrence, seaman.

Phillip Morgan, seaman, severel Charles Binks, landsman, severel Theo Douglas, officer's steward, severely. Randal Tallafareo, landsman, severely. Henry Manning, ordinary scamas, severely.

ion-Total, 12.

Henry King, marine, severely J. S. Conoly, carpenter, severely. Sainia Doane, seaman, slightly. Geo. White, marine, slightly.

# I am unable to give at present any details of the engagement beyond my personal observation and recollection. I have not slept any for nearly thirty hours, and when rested will resume.

THE START POR NEW ORLHANS. At eleven o'clock this morning we up anchor for New Orleans, leaving the Kines and Wissahickon to guard the Quarantine and keep possession of the canais, which lead out seaward. Captain Boggs, of the Varun, a went each bank decorated with white flags, and in scorat in-stances taltered and torn American ensigns waved over fishing luggers and houses. We were greated by the waving or manuscrenters, and the people seemed glad to see us. In some instances a rabid secesher acted with utter contempt at our presence. Everywhere along the river we saw people on horseback, riding to and fro is great haste, telling the news of our advance. The telegraph wire was cut every few miles; but the people in New Orleans were warned early of our success at the fort, and were preparing for us. As we advanced up the river the plantations spread themselves out in great, beauty; the negroes left their labors and came to the levce, and seemed in perfect eestacles at our advancing movements. In some places their demonstrations were truly indicrous; they tossed their hats in the air, bowed, curt sied, and showed by every possible means their joy. At three o'clock we were of Point La Hache. It had been reported to us that the river banks were lined with batteries, but we touud no traces of a ything in the battery line. At a plantation named "Magnolia," we saw a loast thirty teams ploughing, am over two hundred negroes came to the levce to greet us. They were in high glee.

During the afternoon we saw dense volumes of smoke in the direction of the city of smoke in the direction of the city of smokehing was on fire. The fames continued all the evening. At eight o'clock we came to anchor about eighteen miles below the city of New Orleans.

### Off the City New Orleans. FLAGSHIP HARTFORD, Friday, April 25, 1862. BHIPS AND COTTON ON FIRE.

At a few minutes past midnight the cry of a "fire raft" startled us, and looking up the river three large lights were seen, and to avoid any danger we got under way and cruised about the river for an hour or so, till we found that the lights became stationary. By the time we had dropped asleep the order came to up anchor; but it was not unt

asleep the order came to up anchor; but it was not until half-past five o'clock that we were all under way. As we steamed along we found that our fire rafts were five large ships with full cargoes of cotton, and they were mearly consumed. The river was dotted here and there with ship carpenters' stage, and we were of the oi hip carpenters' stage, and we were of the oi hip carpenters' stage, and we were of the oi hip carpenters' stage, and we were of the oi hip carpenters' stage, and we were of the oi hip carpenters' stage, and we were of the oil hip carpenters' stage, and we were of the oil hip carpenters' stage, and we were of the oil hip carpenters' stage, and we were of the same greeting from the negroes as we did yesterday. One would dressed darkey, with a carpet bag in his hand, him died from the bank, "Hurrah, hurrah for Abraham." It caused eat largher, I can assure you.

As we drew near the city we saw the smoke of steamers going up the r v r.

THE EATTERIES NEAR NEW ORLEANS—THEY OFEN PIRE.

At a quarter of eleven we discovered two works known as the Chalmette batteries, one on cach side of the river. One, I should lauge, contained tes and the other right guns. The signal was immediately made to prepare for battle. No hang was flying on either work, were did they hold one dang time. At eleven o'clock both butterless opened throu the Caying. Owing to the very swift current we were unable to go ahead very frast, and it was five minutes after they opened fire before we could fire a both few around us very rapidly, mest of their shot raking along our deck and striking on or near the spop. For twenty minutes we stood the fire without being able to roturn a broadside, which we know would seen silence them. In the meantime the other vessels were working with their bow guns on both works.

soon ellence them. In the meantime the other vessels were working with their bow guns on both works.

IME PLACERIF ANNERS—THE RATERIES SILENCED AND DESTROYED.

At the end of the twenty minutes we were within about fifty yards of the battery of ten guns, one being a mortar. Then we let drive a broadside. Its effect was terrible, and nearly silenced the work. Another breadside of grape, five second shell and a sprinkling of chrapnel finished that work; but as the rebels did not hoist a white flag, as they should do, we gave them another touch up, three cheers, and then left them to run as fast as they chose. The other tattery was soon simuced, this ship throwing in a broadside to all in the good work. The enemy fired at us with infantry, and an artiflery company was coming to their support, when they found it was of no use. I think the enemy lost quite a number of pepide in the engagement. We lost one man, Thomas, captain of the forecastic and of a ride Parrott. It is supposed he was blown overboard by the wind of a passing ball and reached the shore in safety. I heard of one man being, blown overboard from the Brooklyp. Your correspondent was hit by a spinnter, but not seriously injured. From the time the batteric fired on us till we had taken them and were on our way again to the city it was less than an he r.

INDESCRIPTION OF THE HIPPING BY THE BUREAUS.

The predictions of the imprised by the busins.

The river was filled with ships on fire, and all along the level were burning vessels, no less than eightoen versels being on fire at one time, and the enemy were fring others as lest as they could apply the torch. Such vandalism never was let rd of. The situs shere was three with smeke and the air bet with dam se. It was a grand of satisfied, the research of the larr courts of the satisfied the level, with smeke a life to the with dam se. It was a grand of satisfied the satisfied

mob. The smoke of the rules of millions worth of cuton and shipping at times half enceated the people. Whitemen were hastening up the lovee, firing ships and river craft as fast as possible, the people were rushing to and fro. Some of them cheered for the Union, when they were pret upon by the crowd. Man, women and children were armed with pistols, knyes and all manner of weapons. Some cheered for Jeff, Pavis, Beauregard, &c., and used the most via and observed in guing towards us and the good off flag. Fandemonium was here a living pictore. Order was to their a thing past and forgotten, and the air was rest with yells of deliance.

of deliance. CAPTAIN RAILET GOES (N SHORE.

At two o'clock Captain Bulley went on shore, flying a flag of truce, to communicate with the authorities. As the boat drew near the levee the mcb cursed the dag and everything pertaining to it. It was with the greatest difficulty that the naval officers reached the City Hall, where the City Council, the Mayor and Major temeral Lovell were awaiting the arrival of our communi-

greatest difficulty that the navail officers reached the City Hatil, where the City Council, the Mayor and Major General Lovell were awaiting the arrival of our communications.

THE DEWAND FOR THE SURHENDER OF THE CITY AND ABULY. The City of the Council of the protection of the authorities that he demanded the surrender of the city of New Orloans, and assured them of the protection of the "old flag." The city being unier martial law, the civil authorities of course could do nothing; but Major General Lovell, withaul the pomposity he could command, and with all the bluster he could make, and, "Sir, I will never surrender the city." He was politicy informed that the city was in our power, and, as much as we regretted the wanten destruction of property, we would not disturb them, previded they made no Command allowed that the city was in our power, and, as much as we regretted the wanten destruction of property, we would not disturb them, previded they made no Command allowed that the city over the beautiful and the could make the city over the term of the city of the country of the city with his troops (Francisch the interview was carried on with despetch, and Capitals halley, and Lieutenant Perkins, his aid, took a Carriage and returned to their boat. On the route they were insulied, pistola pointed in their faces, and all manner of indignities offered to them. The officer in charge of the boats—Acting Master Morton—was the recipient of all manner of indignities offered to them. The officer in charge of the boats—Acting Master Morton—was the recipient of all manner of indignities offered to them. The officer in charge of the boats—Acting Master Morton—was the recipient of all manner of indignities offered to them. The officer in charge of the boats—Acting Master Morton—was the recipient of all manner of indignities of incity of the protect of the country of the protect of the country of the protect of the country of the cou

days.

The rebel army in this vicinity are paus stricken, and it is reported the most disorderly stemes have occurred within the last twenty-four hours. I am unable to find a single person who thinks himself qualified to give an accurate statement of the scenes through which we have just passed and witnessed.

THE MODERATION OF THE VICTORS.

But I must say, that although our way has been marked.

[CONTINUED ON TENTH PAGE.]